rupees were detected, recently, in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the number of such cases in which Bank employees were involved; and

(d) what action Government have taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d) The existing management information system does not yield information regarding bank frauds State-wise. However, 1559 cases of fraud were reported to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) by 28 public sector banks during the year 1991. RBI has further reported that during the year 1991, 50 employees of public sector banks were convinced and 699 employees were given major/minor penalties for their involvement in frauds irrespective of the date of occurrence.

High growth rate of deposits in foreign Banks

156. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the year ending 1991 showed a high growth rate of deposits in foreign banks as compared to Indian banks;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons for such a decline in Indian Banks deposits; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The percentage growth of deposits of foreign banks and public sector banks for the year ended March, 1991 were 31 per cent and 14 per vent respectively.

(c) and (d) The performance of foreign banks in India vis-a-vis public sector banks in the matter of growth of deposits and also in other areas of working is not comparable because the branches of foreign banks in India are located in metropolitan and port towns, where the potential for deposit growth is more than semi-urban and rural areas. The branches of public sector banks are spread all over the country covering semi-urban and rural areas also. Moreover, foreign banks have world-wide networks of branches which enable them to attract more deposits from non-resident Indians.

Excise duty evasion by Pharmaceutical companies

157. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the anti-evasion wing of the Revenue Department have unearthed evasion of excise duty in production of intermediate bulk drugs by several pharmaceuticals companies producing bulk drugs in the country;

(b) if so, what is the number of companies that have been identified by Government to be evading tax; and

(c) what is the total amount collected and to be colleted from these companies together with their names?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.